UNITED NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/47/82
15 March 1993

Forty-seventh session
Agenda item 92

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/47/659)]

47/82. Importance of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination and of the speedy granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its faith in the importance of the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples contained in its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

Reaffirming also the importance of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination, national sovereignty and territorial integrity and of the speedy granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples as imperatives for the full enjoyment of all human rights,

Reaffirming further the obligation of all Member States to comply with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the resolutions of the United Nations regarding the exercise of the right to self-determination by peoples under colonial and foreign domination,

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) and all relevant resolutions concerning the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Considering the urgent need of Namibia for assistance in its efforts to reconstruct and strengthen its fledgling economic and social structures,

/...

Recalling with satisfaction the adoption at Harare on 21 August 1989 of the Declaration of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Organization of African Unity on Southern Africa on the question of South Africa 1/ and its subsequent endorsement by the Ninth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Belgrade from 4 to 7 September 1989, 2/ as well as the report of the Monitoring Group of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Organization of African Unity on Southern Africa, 3/ and the Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa, 4/ adopted by the General Assembly on 14 December 1989,

Welcoming Security Council resolution 765 (1992) of 16 July 1992, and Council resolution 772 (1992) of 17 August 1992 which, inter alia, provides the basis for action by the Secretary-General in South Africa in order to assist the people of South Africa in ending the violence in that country,

Recalling the Abuja Declaration on South Africa, adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its twenty-seventh ordinary session, held at Abuja from 3 to 5 June 1991, 5/

Reaffirming that the system of apartheid imposed on the South African people constitutes a violation of the fundamental rights of that people, a crime against humanity and a threat to regional peace and security,

Deeply concerned that, in spite of the National Peace Accord signed on 14 September 1991, 6/ acts of assassination of members and leaders of national liberation movements in South Africa are still continuing,

Recalling its resolution 46/79 A, adopted by consensus on 13 December 1991, in which, inter alia, it reaffirmed the need for the full implementation of the provisions of the Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa that were not yet fulfilled,

Noting with concern that, while significant legal and political measures in the right direction have been undertaken by the Government of South Africa, there remain various pieces of security legislation that restrict the possibilities for free and peaceful political activity, and that apartheid remains in place,

Noting also with concern that political trials and the detention of opponents of apartheid continue in South Africa in total disregard of the provisions of the Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa,

---

1/ A/44/697, annex.

2/ See A/44/551-S/20870, annex.

3/ A/44/963, annex.

4/ Resolution S-16/1, annex.

5/ A/46/390, annex II.

6/ See Centre Against Apartheid, Notes and Documents, No. 23/91.

Deeply concerned about the current wave of violence in South Africa resulting from the continued existence of apartheid policies, practices and structures as well as from actions of those forces opposed to the democratic transformation of the country,

Gravely concerned that a number of South African patriots remain on death row,

Welcoming the signing of the General Peace Agreement for Mozambique, 7/ at Rome on 4 October 1992, which provides for the termination of the armed conflict in that country,

Reaffirming the national unity and territorial integrity of the Comoros,

Recalling the Geneva Declaration on Palestine and the Programme of Action for the Achievement of Palestinian Rights, adopted by the International Conference on the Question of Palestine, 8/

Considering that the continuation of the Israeli oppressive measures and the denial of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people to self-determination, sovereignty, independence and return to Palestine constitute a serious threat to international peace and security,

Bearing in mind United Nations resolutions related to the question of Palestine and the rights of the Palestinian people,

Deeply concerned and alarmed at the deplorable consequences of Israel's acts of aggression against Lebanon and its practices in and its continuing occupation of parts of southern Lebanon, as well as its refusal to implement the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, in particular resolution 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978,

1. Calls upon all States to implement fully and faithfully all the relevant resolutions of the United Nations regarding the exercise of the right to self-determination and independence by peoples under colonial and foreign domination;

2. Reaffirms the legitimacy of the struggle of peoples for independence, territorial integrity, national unity and liberation from colonial domination, apartheid and foreign occupation, in all its forms and by all available means;

3. Reaffirms also the inalienable right of the Palestinian people and all peoples under foreign occupation and colonial domination to self-determination, national independence, territorial integrity, national unity and sovereignty without foreign interference;

7/ S/24635, annex.

8/ Report of the International Conference on the Question of Palestine, Geneva, 29 August-7 September 1983 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.83.I.21), chap. I.

4. Calls upon those Governments which do not recognize the right to self-determination and independence of all peoples still under colonial domination, alien subjugation and foreign occupation to do so;

5. Calls upon Israel to refrain from the constant, deliberate violations of the fundamental rights of the Palestinian people, which constitute an obstacle to the achievement of self-determination and independence by the Palestinian people and the ongoing efforts towards comprehensive peace in the region;

6. Urges all States, the specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system, as well as other international organizations, to extend their support to the Palestinian people through its sole and legitimate representative, the Palestine Liberation Organization, in its struggle to regain its right to self-determination and independence in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations;

7. Urgently appeals to all States, the organizations of the United Nations system and other international organizations to render assistance to Namibia in order to enhance its efforts to promote democracy and economic development;

8. Reaffirms its rejection of the so-called "tri-cameral constitution" of 1983 as null and void, and reiterates that peace in South Africa can be guaranteed only by the establishment of majority rule through the full and free exercise of adult suffrage by all the people in a united and undivided South Africa;

9. Strongly urges the Government of South Africa to take additional steps to implement fully the provisions of the Declaration of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Organization of African Unity on Southern Africa on the question of South Africa, 1/ and the Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa; 4/

10. Calls for an immediate end to violence and calls upon the Government of South Africa to exercise its responsibility to end it through, inter alia, strict adherence to the National Peace Accord;

11. Calls upon all signatories to the National Peace Accord to manifest their commitment to peace by fully implementing its provisions and calls upon all other parties to contribute to the attainment of its objectives;

12. Strongly condemns the establishment and use of armed groups with a view to pitting them against the national liberation movements;

13. Demands that the Government of South Africa repeal the security legislation that remains in force, which inhibits free and peaceful political activity;

14. Requests the Secretary-General to act speedily to implement Security Council resolution 772 (1992) in its entirety, including those parts pertaining to the investigation of criminal conduct and the monitoring of all armed formations in the country;

15. Demands the full application of the mandatory arms embargo against South Africa, imposed under Security Council resolution 418 (1977) of 4 November 1977, by all countries and more particularly by those countries which maintain military and nuclear cooperation with the Government of South Africa and continue to supply it with related matériel;

16. Expresses its deep concern about the actions by certain countries whose premature relaxation of existing measures against the South African regime, in flagrant violation of the United Nations consensus declaration, encourages the regime to persist in its oppression of the Black majority with regard to their right to self-determination;

17. Strongly urges the international community, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 46/87 of 16 December 1991, to continue to extend maximum assistance to Lesotho to enable it to fulfil its international humanitarian obligations towards refugees;

18. Pays tribute to the Government and people of Angola for their noble contribution to the evolving climate of peace in southern Angola;

19. Demands that the Government of South Africa pay compensation to Angola for damages caused, in accordance with the relevant decisions and resolutions of the Security Council;

20. Demands also that the Government of South Africa pay full and adequate compensation to Botswana for the loss of life and damage to property resulting from the unprovoked and unwarranted military attacks of 14 June 1985, 19 May 1986 and 20 June 1988 on the capital of Botswana;

21. Calls upon the international community to extend its generous support to the ongoing efforts aimed at ensuring respect for and the successful implementation of the General Peace Agreement for Mozambique 7/ and at assisting the Government of Mozambique in the establishment of lasting peace and democracy and in the promotion of an effective programme of national reconstruction in that country;

22. Fully supports the Secretary-General in his efforts to implement the plan for the settlement of the question of Western Sahara by organizing, in cooperation with the Organization of African Unity, a referendum for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara;

23. Notes the contacts between the Government of the Comoros and the Government of France in the search for a just solution to the problem of the integration of the Comorian island of Mayotte into the Comoros, in accordance with the resolutions of the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations on the question;

24. Strongly condemns the continued violation of the human rights of the peoples still under colonial domination and alien subjugation;

25. Calls for a substantial increase in all forms of assistance given by all States, United Nations organs, the specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to the victims of racism, racial discrimination and apartheid through anti-apartheid organizations and national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity;

26. Reaffirms that the practice of using mercenaries against sovereign States and national liberation movements constitutes a criminal act, and calls upon the Governments of all countries to enact legislation declaring the recruitment, financing and training of mercenaries in their territories and the transit of mercenaries through their territories to be punishable offences and prohibiting their nationals from serving as mercenaries, and to report on such legislation to the Secretary-General;

27. Demands the immediate and unconditional release of all persons detained or imprisoned as a result of their struggle for self-determination and independence, full respect for their fundamental individual rights and compliance with article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 9/ under which no one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment;

28. Expresses its appreciation for the material and other forms of assistance that peoples under colonial rule continue to receive from Governments, organizations of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations, and calls for a substantial increase in that assistance;

29. Urges all States, the specialized agencies and other competent organizations of the United Nations system to do their utmost to ensure the full implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and to intensify their efforts to support peoples under colonial, foreign and racist domination in their just struggle for self-determination and independence;

30. Decides to consider this question at its forty-eighth session under the item entitled "Right of peoples to self-determination".

89th plenary meeting
16 December 1992

9/ Resolution 217 A (III).